EVENING

Nippon Times

Co-Operation Means Co-Prosperity

Fight With Firmness, Build With Kindness

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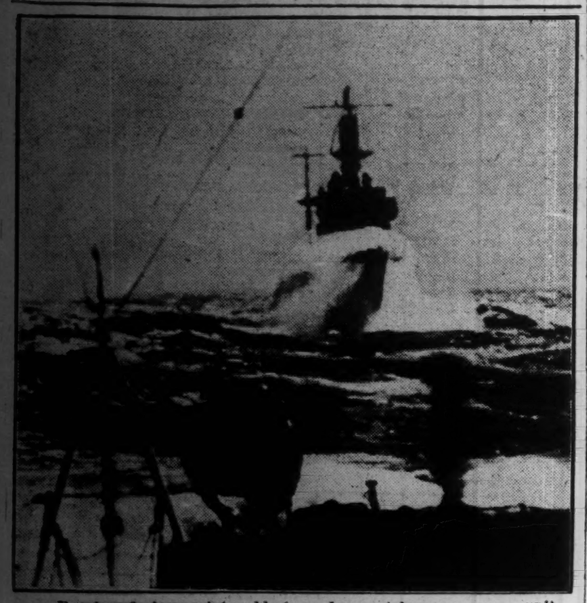
Guarding North Pacific



Braving furious wintry blasts and mountainous waves, a unit of the Imperial Navy continues its unrelenting vigil. Photograph by Cameraman Tanaka of Navy Information Corps.

Passed by Navy Ministry

Press Comments

Monday, January 4

ASAHI—Farewell to Ambassador Ott
TOKYO SHIMBUN—Dissension in Anti-Axis Front
MAINICHI—New Layout for Nippon-German Relation; Advance of Scientific Nippon

Farewell to Ambassador Ott

ASAHI—The change of the German Ambassador to Nippon was announced by the German Government in connection with the new diplomatic policy it adopted at the beginning of this important year. Major-General Eugen Ott came to Tokyo as military attache to the German Embassy 10 years ago and then in the spring of 1938 he was promoted to the Ambassadorship. For five years he has occupied that important position throughout the epoch-making period of international complications which proved extremely important both to Germany and Nippon, and successfully fulfilled his manifold duties.

Particularly he has laid the foundation for close relations and cooperation between the two countries, successfully concluding the German-Nippon Cultural Agreement and the German-Nippon-Italy Tripartite Alliance. His great achievement in this direction is fully appreciated by the Governments and peoples of the two countries. Then his personality as a sincere, frank and kind person has won for him the respect and admiration of all peoples who came in contact with him.

World diplomacy is now becoming more important with the development of the world war. Just at this moment, we regret to part with Ambassador Ott. Fortunately, however, Dr. Heinrich G. Stahmer, who is coming as the new German Ambassador to Tokyo, had already played the main role in concluding the Tripartite Alliance, and also as the first German Ambassador to the National Government of China, he has devoted much efforts for fostering the cooperation between Nippon, China and Germany. Thus fully experienced in diplomacy and particularly in the affairs of East Asia, much is expected of him in the future to effect closer cooperation between Germany and Nippon.

In bidding farewell to Ambassador Ott, we beg to express sincere appreciation for his accomplishments and at the same time, we expect much of the future activity of the new Ambassador Dr. Stahmer. Also, we believe that the Government of Germany will suitably recognize Ambassador Ott for his long and meritorious service.

Dissension in Anti-Axis Front

TOKYO SHIMBUN—The confrontation of British and American imperialism that has come to the fore with the invasion of French North Africa caused the assassination of Admiral Jean Francois Darlan, puppet for the United States. But the problem between the United States and Britain has not been solved with his assassination. It is expected that their confrontation will further increase this year.

Strategically, Britain should welcome the landing of American forces in Africa, but the truth is that she did not welcome the extension of American influence to the African continent. Thus, Admiral Darlan was assassinated and General Henri Giraud was made the new puppet. It is not difficult to imagine who were behind the assassination.

Britain also illegally occupied Somaliland to prevent any activity of the United States in that territory.

Both the United States and Britain are fighting Axis nations, and in this they agree, but they differ in economic and political interests, and even while conducting military operations they are thinking of extending their respective interests. Thus, it is natural that they are unable to cooperate closely in military operations.

During last year, the relations between the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain respecting the second front question became acutely strained. Unless they change their attitude, this question may further aggravate this year.

The British-American attitude toward Chungking is decided by their own selfish policies, regardless of the suffering or wishes of Chungking. The Chungking military mission that was sent to the United States did not attain any results even after seven months' stay. Therefore, Chungking is mistaken if it thinks the United States has any sincerity toward it. As American ambitions are further revealed, the anti-Axis front is certain to face greater dissension in the future.

New Layout for Nippon-German Relations

MAINICHI—To Major-General Eugen Ott, retiring German Ambassador, we wish to express our sincere regret over his departure from Nippon and at the same time we wish to express our sincere appreciation for his great achievements in cementing German-Nippon relations, for which he had devoted his entire efforts.

The German Government has often appointed in the past, as the German Ambassador to Tokyo, such persons who have a full appreciation and understanding of Nippon. Ambassador Ott not only truly understands the nation and people of Nippon, but he played a historic role in concluding the German-Nippon Anti-Comintern Pact, and also the German-Nippon-Italian Tripartite Alliance. The name of Ambassador Ott is boldly engraved in the history of German-Nippon relation, and is bound to be inscribed in the history of the coming development of the world.

As successor to Ambassador Ott is appointed Dr. Heinrich G. Stahmer, Ambassador to Nanking. He is also well known to the people of Nippon, having come to Tokyo first in 1940. His understanding of Nippon has been speedily increased, and at the time of the conclusion of the Tripartite Alliance, he, as active man behind the scenes, gained many close friends among officials and others in this country.

Dr. Stahmer's stay in Nippon is very short compared with that of Major-General Ott, but his understanding of the country may be just as full.

On this occasion, we sincerely pray for the welfare and health of Ambassador Ott, and at the same time are confident that with the coming of the new Ambassador, German-Nippon relations will be ever improved.

Advance of Scientific Nippon

MAINICHI—The effort the human race has directed toward the study of natural science and also in the line of inventions in the past may be said to have been enormous. Particularly remarkable in these few years is the progress made in arms directly used for defensive and offensive purposes with the outbreak of the world war, and also in various production fields.

Though production technique has progressed to a great extent, we must realize that there is to be made a greater advance in this field

(Continued on Page 2)

U.S., Brazil Begin Rio Conference

45,000 Troops Demanded By America---Aided Africa Invasion

WAR CABINET FOR U.S.

Perkins and Stimson Out—Big Army Program Meeting Popular Opposition

By Arrangement with the Asahi (Special to the Nippon Times)

MADRID, January 3.—The United States-Brazil Military Conference was opened at Rio de Janeiro on December 31 attended by four American and three Brazilian delegates, it is reported from Lisbon. Brazilian Foreign Minister Dr. Oswald Aranha and United States Ambassador Jefferson Gaffery to Brazil were among those present.

According to another report, it is said that the United States demanded Brazil to dispacth 45,000 troops to Southern Pacific areas, proposing that she was ready to send 35,000 American soldiers to Brazil for her defense. The reason for this demand is said to be that the climate in Southern Pacific areas is similar to that in Brazil. But it is yet unknown what attitude Brazil will take toward the American demand.

At the press conference given on December 31, President Getulio Dornelles Vargas of Brazil announced that in starting the invasion into North Africa, American troops used Brazilian ports and also that Brazilian warships convoyed American transports. This statement has endorsed the fact that President Vargas has become a slave to the United States.

War Cabinet Likely

Domei

LISBON, January 3.—President Franklin D. Roosevelt is considering the formation of a war cabinet, it is reported from New York.

The reorganization of the United States Government has been often rumored in connection with the intensification of wartime structure. Various wartime organs established since the beginning of the war have become extremely numerous and they are resulting in preventing the smooth operation of the entire structure. Thus, the establishment of a strong central organ is being urged by various quarters.

The recent resignaiton of Secretary of Labor Miss Frances Perkins and Secretary of War Henry Stimson is said to be due to this situation.

It is generally expected that the President will refer to this problem in his New Year Message to the Congress to be given on January 5.

Big Army Opposed

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, January 2.—The alleged preparation in the United States to establish in that country a huge army of 7,500,000 men and officers is now being strongly opposed by many quarters in the country.

A recent Washington dispatch in this connection revealed that George Bender, member of the House of Representatives for Ohio, in his publication of a report made by his commission on the proposed American High Command's move to create a large army, declared that such a rash act will drive the country into spending all for the projected army which in turn would leave nothing for America to send to Britain and Soviet Russia to aid the latter's war efforts.

Mr. Bender said that his country was now doing nothing for the proposed formation of a second front in Europe. "Neither are they making any effort to keep up their aids to Britain, Soviet Russia and Chungking." He then stated that such an outrageous attempt on the part of the American authorities was beyond his understanding.

"In 1942," he further said, "our country had mobilize all national resources to newly establish a 4,000,000-men army. The alleged move to have the army increased to 7,500,000 men, if it is really to be realized, will drive the country to cancel all other attempts. This inevitably means that our war aids based on the Lease-Lend Act will be given up."

U.S. Selfishness Revealed

"I know," he added, "that the Soviet Union has been declaring that 1943 will be its decisive year. Against this Soviet plan, the United

(Continued on Page 2)

Flood Damages in U.S. Reach Gigantic Figure; Wheeling City Hit Hard

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, January 3.—With the overflowing of Ohio and Susquehanna rivers affecting the five states of Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Indiana, damages are estimated to have reached a high figure, it is reported in a dispatch reaching here from Pitsburg. According to the dispatch, embankments are being improvised in cities and towns bordering the Ohio River, while inhabitants in lowland regions are seeking shelters in higher places. In the city of Wheeling, West Virginia, inundated houses numbered 24,000 and the city of Plymouth is five feet underwater, added the report.

INDIAN STRIKES BECOME ACUTE

Munition Plants Affected--Disturbances Spread

Yomiuri-Hochi

BANGKOK, January 3.—With the start of the new year, anti-British disturbances in India have assumed more serious proportions and particularly worthy of attention are strikes which have commenced systematically by operatives in munition industries in Eastern India, it was revealed by broadcasts made yesterday evening by secret broadcasting stations in India.

According to the broadcasts, a bomb explosion incident broke out in a clothing depot of Cawnpore in United Provinces, which resulted in the temporary suspension of operation in work shops there. In addition to some Indian operatives, many British foremen are reported to have been injured.

In Calcutta, 150 workers were taken into custody early in the new year as the result of a series of round-up continued from the end of last year. At the same time, however, Indian operatives were confined in plants so that work could be continued.

In Madras, sabotage is rampant in many factories as the result of which more than 30 plants have suspended operation since the end of last year.

Armed clashes are also reported in the coastal regions of the province between the Indian masses and police. In the raids carried out by the Indians against police stations and railways, casualties were caused on both sides.

In Bihar Province, a military train was overturned, which resulted in heavy casualties, it is also disclosed by the broadcasts.

Given Death Sentence

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 3.—The British authorities in India recently sentenced 14 Indians to death and 27 others to life imprisonment for taking part in an anti-British demonstration in Nagpur, Eastern India, it is reported by a New Delhi dispatch.

Press Ban Tighter

Domei

ISTANBUL, January 2.—Any news concerning anti-British movements for Indian independence will not be allowed to be reported in newspapers, it was announced today to the press in India by the British-Indian Government, according to a New Delhi broadcast.

Wheat Storing Curbed

Domei

ISTANBUL, January 2.—By its decree made known today, the Provincial Government of Bombay proclaimed that the storing of wheat exceeding 250 pounds must be reported to the authorities concerned, and at the same time prohibited the sales of the cereal without proper permission.

Noshiro Mayor Passes

Soichi Sato, Mayor of Noshiro City, died at the age of 61 at his home in Noshiro, on December 31. Funeral services will be held by the city on January 6.

Appointment of Stahmer to Tokyo Post Seen as Another Step for Furthering Ties

Domei

BERLIN, January 2.—Commenting on the diplomatic reshuffle announced by the Wilhelmstrasse today, involving the changes of German Ambassador to Nippon, Spain and Sweden, political observers here opined that Dr. Heinrich G. Stahmer, Ambassador to Nanking, who has been appointed Ambassador to Tokyo, succeeding Major-General Eugen Ott, will play an important role in his new capacity for furthering friendly relations between Tokyo and Berlin, reports Stefani.

Referring to the past career of Ambassador Stahmer, who made great contributions to the conclusion of the Italo-German Nipponese Tripartite Alliance, political commentators stated that he is certainly the right man in the right place.

The same quarters added that the appointment of Herr von Moltke of the German Foreign Office as new Ambassador to Madrid has greatly strengthened the German diplomatic front in Spain, particularly as the international position of Madrid has become increasingly important due to various Anglo-American diplomatic maneuvers toward Spain including the demand for an "invasion of Iberia."

Knows Nippon Well

Dr. Heinrich Georg Stahmer who has been appointed Ambassador to Tokyo replacing Major-General Eugen Ott was born in Hamburg in 1892.

Having taken part in the World War I, Dr. Stahmer has the title of a cavalry Captain. After the War, he was engaged in trade with South America and the South Seas and is well versed in foreign affairs and is also skilled in negotiating with foreigners.

In 1933, he joined the staff of the so-called Ribbentrop Bureau, a private diplomatic office run by the present German Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop. Since then, he has been an able advisor to Mr. von Ribbentrop and every time serious problems concerning East Asia arose, he took part in diplomatic planning as a "masked diplomat."

In 1939, he was appointed minister without portfolio of the German Foreign Office and managed diplomatic problems mainly concerning Nippon. In 1940, he came to Nippon and after his return home reported to Chancellor Adolf Hitler and Foreign Minister von Ribbentrop on Nippon and the Nipponese, thus furthering the knowledge of the German leaders on this country.

On September 9 of the same year, he visited this country again, accompanied by Mrs. Stahmer, and held incessant conversations with the Government circles. His activities resulted in the conclusion of the historic Nippon-Germany-Italy Tripartite Alliance.

On October 5, Dr. Stahmer and his wife were received in audience by His Majesty the Emperor and Her Majesty the Empress.

Dr. Stahmer was formally appointed Ambassador to China on October 10 in 1941. On his way to Nanking, he visited Nippon again and reached the capital of China about the

(Continued on Page 2)

Decoux Gives Message To French Indo-Chinese

Exhorts People to Remain Faithful to Petain

By Arrangement with the Asahi (Special to Japan Times Advertiser)

SAIGON, January 3.—All French nationals in French Indo-China should remain faithful as ever to Field Marshal Henri Philippe Petain, French Chief of State, declared Vice-Admiral Jean Decoux, Governor-General of French Indo-China, in his New Year broadcast on January 1.

In the part of the message addressed to the French nationals and native inhabitants in Indo-China, the Governor-General said:

"We are now working calmly in the midst of international turmoil, without being molested in any tangible manner. Every one knows such a state has been made possible through stupendous efforts to eliminate difficulties and hardships which once threatened us.

"I hope in this connection that all of you will stand by my side with a firm resolution to overcome any difficulty which may come in the future."

Governor-General Decoux, then addressing exclusively the resident French nationals, stated:

"The year 1942 was a calamitous period for all French people. However, you must not be disappointed and should remain faithful to our Chief of State, Field Marshal Henri Philippe Petain and contribute with more zeal to his cause.

"France, you all know, suffered her territories in North Africa to be illegally occupied because of some traitorous Frenchmen residing there. I know that all French people, who have sound reason, will hate such traitors."

Lastly, addressing again to the Frenchmen and native inhabitants in French Indo-China, regardless of their nationalities, Vice-Admiral Decoux declared: "You are now strongly urged to march on your way with better solidarity among you."

Burmese Hail New Flag; Union Jack Design Out

Standard Makes Debut on Dec. 8

Domei

RANGOON, January 3.—A new people's flag which made its debut on the occasion of the first anniversary of the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, is being hailed by the general public of Burma.

The new flag is designed with a peacock in green and red on a white background fringed with gold, and is used in conjunction with the Rising Sun flag.

The peacock symbolizes the prosperity of Burma, the design having been introduced about 200 years ago. The color scheme of gold, red and green is based on the flag used by the Thakin revolutionary party around 1920 in their movement against the British Government. The three colors used then consisted of yellow, red and green symbolizing the religion, the blood and the agriculture of the Burmese people.

For one century since the beginning of British rule in Burma, the Burmese flag was banned. The flag used by the Thakin revolutionists was of a design of a crescent moon and a hammer on a ground of three stripes of yellow, red and green. However, some Burmese did not like the design of the crescent and hammer as symbol of revolution, and insisted instead on the use of a peacock.

The British Government made use of this controversy and forced on the Burmese people the use of a new flag with the design of a small Union Jack in the upper left hand corner and a small peacock in the center of a blue background. The Burmese people did not like this flag with its blue ground signifying British rule.

The new flag which made its debut recently is hailed by the Burmese people as embodying all the hopes of the Burmese people in its design.

Chungking, America at Odds Over Question Who Must Retake Burma Road From Nippon

Domei

RANGOON, January 2.—Openly revealing the painfulness of the blow sustained by the Chungking regime when the Imperial Forces blocked the Burma route by occupying Lashio on April 29, 1942, the possibility of reopening the route has become the subject of heated discussion between Chungking spokesmen and influential Americans, according to information reaching here today. The much-heralded Burma Recapture Joint Conference among American, British and Chungking authorities further confirms this trend of opinion in enemy circles.

Though in perfect agreement upon the urgency of recapture of the route, Americans and Chungking feel differently as to who should tackle the herculean task of wresting the Burma Road from Nippon.

The Chungking military authorities argue that given sufficient military equipment Chungking's manpower can give good account of itself. For this purpose, however, the Burma route must be reopened by the United States.

On the other hand, a recent issue of the New York Times, while editorially admitting Chungking's pressing need of war supplies pointed out that America was perfectly willing to extend help once the route is opened by Chungking.

Germans Bolster Pantellaria Isle

Laval Is Discussing Relations With Axis During Stay in Paris

Domei

PARIS, January 3.—Since his arrival here on December 30 last year, French Premier Pierre Laval has been holding negotiations with the representatives of the German forces. The conversations are being made on concrete items concerning the readjustment of relations between France and the Axis Powers and are expected to last for a considerably long period.

BERLIN-ANKARA SIGN LOAN PACT

100-Million Reichsmarks Advanced--Big Blow to Foes

By Arrangement with the Asahi (Special to the Nippon Times)

BERLIN, January 1.—A German-Turkish pact according a loan of 100,000,000 Reichsmarks to Turkey was signed here yesterday with the completion of negotiations for agreement concerning the details of the pact.

Blow to U.S., Britain

By Arrangement with the Asahi (Special to the Nippon Times)

SHANGHAI, January 3.—According to an Ankara dispatch, the recent signing of the credit pact between Germany and Turkey has smashed the Anglo-American propaganda that the Turkish Government had been showing indication of leaning toward the anti-Axis countries.

The conclusion of the pact between Berlin and Ankara is understood to be indicative of the Turkish Government policy of ever maintaining its neutrality policy.

In the above connection, it is reported that the Turkish ambassadors to Berlin, London and the Soviet Union have been recalled to Ankara for a conference with their home Government concerning its foreign policy.

Annam Chinese Pledge Allegiance to Nanking

55,000 Merchants Denounce Chiang

Domei

SAIGON, January 3.—More than 55,000 Chinese merchants in Annam today participated in a New Year celebration which was held at Nhatrang and pledged to do their best to cooperate with Nippon in the prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia.

At the opening of the meeting, the Chinese merchants unanimously passed a resolution denouncing the anti-Nipponese policy of the Chungking regime and pledged full support of the National Government of China at Nanking.

The Nipponese were represented by Shuntaro Koguro, Nippon Vice-Consul at Hanoi, and some Embassy officials, as well as by leading Nipponese residents of Annan.

Scenic Views Decided

The Landscape Society, of which Prince Nobusuke Takatsukasa is president, decided by ballot by its members the new eight scenic views of Nippon in commemoration of the 100th issue of its organ, "Landscape."

The new eight views in order of merit are as follows: Mt. Fuji, ipcluding the five lakes; Nikko, including Lake Chuzenji as center and Yumoto, and Nikko-cho; Kamikochi; Lake Towada, including Oirase; the Inland Sea; Mt. Kongo; Akan (Lake Akan, Lake Mashu, Oakangadake, and Meakangadake are included); and Aso, including the whole range of the Aso volcano.

Cabinet Passes Bills

The Cabinet held its first session of the year at 10 a.m. today, and approved remaining bills to be submitted to the present Diet session.

Troops, Planes Rushed to Strategic Point in Mediterranean

U-BOATS KEEP ACTIVE

U.S. Transport Sunk Off Oran—British Destroyer Torpedoed Near Cyprus

By Arrangement with the Asahi (Special to the Nippon Times)

STOCKHOLM, January 3.—Two large German transports landed off Tunisia on December 25, it is reported from Berne as information received from Rome.

These German forces came from Marsala, Sicily, and belong to the Southern Italian defense district. At the same time, numerous airplanes are concentrated on the airfields on Pantellaria Island.

Pantellaria Island is a strategically important point, located between Marsala, Sicily, and Cape Bon, Tunisia. Defensive facilities had been constructed there during the past few years. It is one of the important military bases for the Axis in this region.

The Italian side is welcoming the arrival of the German forces there as revealing the close cooperation existing between the German and Italian forces.

U.S. Transport Sunk

Domei

BERLIN, January 3.—German submarines on January 2 sank one American transport carrying munitions for the American forces to Africa, it is revealed by the German High Command. The transport was cruising toward the port of Oran convoyed by American warships.

British Destroyer Sunk

Domei

BERLIN, January 2.—German U-boats cruising the waters northeast of Cyprus Island torpedoed and sank one Jarvis-type British destroyer of 1,695 tons on December 31, it is announced by the German High Command.

To Execute 121 Arabs

Domei

BERLIN, January 3.—According to information from Paris, the headquarters of the American forces in Morocco has decided to shoot 121 Arabs, who are now being kept as hostages, for their non-cooperation with the Allied forces.

Kuriyama to See Decoux

Domei

HANOI, January 2.—Shigeru Kuriyama, Secretary-General of the Nippon Ambassadorial Office in French-Indo-China, left here this evening for Saigon in order to continue discussions with Vice-Admiral Jean Decoux, Governor-General, on the economic agreement between the two countries.

Mr. Kuriyama is expected to stay in Saigon until the end of this month.

Shigemitsu Meets Wang

Domei

NANKING, January 2.—Mamoru Shigemitsu, Nippon Ambassador to Nanking, visited Wang Ching-wei, President of the Nanking National Government, this morning and after an exchange of New Year's greetings, conferred for about an hour.

It will be recalled that Ambassador Shigemitsu returned here on December 31 after conferring with the central authorities in Tokyo.

Religious Head Named

Lieutenant-General Nobutaka Shioten was appointed the President of the Dai Nippon Mohammedan Society, as the term of the former President General Senjuro Hayashi expired and he was made the Honorary President. Kentaro Omura and Shuhei Umezawa were also made Directors of the Society.

China Curbs Insurance Firms

C.P.S.

NANKING, January 3.—In order to limit the number of insurance companies, the Ministry of Industry has secured the approval of the Central Political Council through the Executive Yuan for the placing of restrictions on insurance companies to be organized in future.

FOOD SECURITY SEEN IN NIPPON

U.S. Practically Starving Due to Acute Shortage

Among the belligerent countries, Nippon is the most secure as regards foodstuffs, declared Admiral Isamu Takeshita, retired, and an authority of general conditions in America, in his interview with the Asahi. "I am confident that Nippon is more secure as regards food than America and England.

"Though England had stored more foodstuffs before the current war than at the time of the World War I, she is now almost starving, he added.

"Contrary to general observation, the United States is also now seriously suffering from the shortage of foodstuffs. America is dependent on the Central and Western States for the supply of foodstuffs, as the States east of Chicago are industrial, while the Southern States produce cotton. Considered as a whole, America is complete as a capitalistic, industrial country but she had to meet unexpected difficulties when she started war with Nippon.

"Inefficiency of transportation was the first to hinder the smooth distribution of foodstuffs in America. Before the outbreak of the war, fresh foodstuffs produced in the Western States were speedily sent to Chicago and to the Eastern States, but the war has seriously obstructed the transportation through this route.

"Also, large amounts of food were formerly transported between the eastern and western part of America. However, with the Pacific Coast being menaced by the Imperial submarines and the Caribbean Sea by the German U-boats, transportation by ships has been greatly hindered. Moreover, the losses of tankers have impaired the transportation of oil produced in the Western States and thus it has made difficult the transportation of food by motorcars which had so far played a larger part than railways.

"Chicago has been the center of flour-milling and meat packing industry. Recent reports state that there is no flour or tinned meat there. This fact eloquently testifies to the acute shortage of foodstuffs prevailing all over in America.

"Vegetables and fruits in California had formerly been produced by Nipponese farmers. With the local Nipponese workers having been forced to immigrate to the hinterland immediately after the outbreak of the current war, the Americans had to suffer so much from the shortage of fresh vegetables and fruits that the authorities recently ordered about 9,000 Nipponese farmers to return to their former farms.

"The shortage of foodstuffs is so acute in America that some cities are reported to have had foodless Christmas. Such a plight has been caused by America's reckless blunder of opening hostilities with Nippon, under-estimating the might of the latter."

Selection of Stahmer Will Strengthen Ties

(Continued From Page 1)

same time Nipponese Ambassador to Nanking Mamoru Shigemitsu proceeded to his new post.

The appointment of Dr. Stahmer, who holds the trust of the Reich Government leaders, as new Ambassador to Tokyo will further strengthen the relationship between the two Allies of the Axis, Nippon and Germany, is the opinion prevalent among the local observers.

Both Able Men

"Both Major-General Ott and Dr. Stahmer are capable men for Nippon," was the comment made by Toshio Shiratori, former Nippon Ambassador to Italy, regarding the recent replacement of German Ambassador to Tokyo, Major-General Eugen Ott, by Dr. Heinrich G. Stahmer, Ambassador to the National Government of China at Nanking.

"Dr. Stahmer has two sons who are now fighting on the front respectively as a flight lieutenant and a non-commissioned officer of a communication corps," stated Mr. Shiratori in his interview with the Yomiuri-Hochi.

"Mr. Stahmer is always taking pride in the fact that his sons are serving the State in place of himself. As for Dr. Stahmer himself, I cannot tell you any interesting inside story concerning the conclusion of the Tripartite Pact."

Mr. Shiratori, it is recalled, was active in making preparations for the signing of the treaty concluded among Nippon, Germany and Italy in September, 1940. Dr. Stahmer acted as "masked Minister" in the conclusion of the pact.

Dr. Stahmer is 51 years old. He is an eloquent and smart diplomat and has been a member of the supreme brain trust of Reich Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop since 1933. Considering the career and caliber of the new Ambassador, Mr. Shiratori's comment is very significant.

Major-General Ott, it is to be recalled in this connection, has been Ambassador to Tokyo for the last five years. Previous to his appointment as Ambassador, he was military attache to the local German Embassy for five years from 1933.

During his long stay in Nippon, he has greatly coptributed to the strengthening of the Nippon-Germany relationship and his departure is being regretted by both official and private circles in Tokyo.

Colored American in P.I. Expresses Regret For Inhuman Treatment of Nipponese in U.S.

Domei

MANILA, January 2.—T. Nimrod McKenny, a colored citizen of the United States now interned at the St. Thomas camp, here has lately expressed his deep regret for the inhuman treatment accorded Nippon internees by the authorities of his mother country, in a letter addressed to the head of the administrative superintendence board of the Imperial Army in the Philippines.

The letter, which is an expression of thanks for the kind treatment accorded Mr. McKenny at the St. Thomas camp, reads in substance:

"I have for the past several years been the leader of the colored American citizens living in the Philippines. So it was with much chagrin that I heard of the rough treatment accorded Nippon internees in America. I express my deep regret for the outrageous acts of the American government.

"To those, however, who are well acquainted with American ways in the past, the inhuman treatment accorded Nippon internees by the American Government is far from surprising. Compared with the behavior of the American authorities, the treatment we now receive from the Nippon authorities is a matter which deserves praise and deep thanks.

"Here in the Philippines, all interned enemy nationals are treated with generous consideration. Those advanced in age, or suffering from illness, are released. In addition, the internees who are required to attend the seriously ill among their wives and children are permitted to do so.

"These kind acts of the Nippon authorities is enough to deeply impress those who once served under General MacArthur and saw many instances of Nippon civilians being maltreated by his orders.

"I sincerely hope that the United States authorities will improve their attitude toward the Nippon internees in America and treat them with due justice and righteousness."

POWER DREAM OF ENEMY GONE

Britain's Economic Exploitation Ends With Defeats

Domei

SHONAN, December 31.—In the midst of the stupendous military events taking place in all parts of the globe today, one is apt to overlook the fact that he is now witnessing the most portentous economic upheaval the world has yet ever witnessed since the human world was organized into a civilized community of nations, wresting from nature her innermost secrets for the service of man.

In the absurdly short space of three years an economic structure built up by the nations very patiently over many centuries has collapsed completely, purely because one racial group, the Anglo-Saxons, while benefiting from the exerted toils of other racial units sought in season and out of season to dominate them all and arrogated to itself the power to dictate to the rest of the world, how much of the world's abundant and luxurious riches it should have, how much it should pay for them, and also by a series of political and financial manouvers spread over decades gathered into its own hands the absolute power to enforce its will.

The result was that the Anglo-Saxons, the British in particular, occupied such a position of power and influence that they were able for over a century to hamboozle the world that their mission was one of emancipation of the down-trodden and primitive people of the world. Unfortunately for Britain these down-trodden and primitive people, after a century of her "civilizing" influence still remained down-trodden and primitive.

Britain Intimidates Others

Britain had taken possession of territories of other people by force many times, by knavery and chicanery sometimes, in every quarter of the globe, and she fortified many strategic points from which she operated her navy, ostensibly intended to protect her trade routes but really to intimidate any other nation which might have the hardihood to challenge her supremacy. She had a world market which she could and did close to her competitors who were able to produce and sell the goods which she herself produced, at very much reduced prices. But where she had to trade in the open market as in Europe, she was hopelessly beaten. Hence Britain concentrated all her efforts in buttressing her hold on the people of the Empire from the orbit of which she drove away every single competitor except her cousin across the Atlantic. Britain's financial and economic hegemony over the world had reached its zenith when very reluctantly she entered the war in September 1939, reluctantly because she knew from the very beginning that she stood to lose much more than she hoped to gain by entering the war.

What has happened since the war? Her entire trade with Empire has disappeared. There is not a single country in that vast Empire from which she can secure a scrap of food or an ounce of raw material for her industries. Since she provoked Japan to enter the war on the side of the Axis Powers, Britain has lost not only her powerful navy, with the result that her trade with East Asia has entirely disappeared. She can get no rubber, tin or oil and Lancashire cannot sell to the millions of Asia its expensive products at exorbitant prices.

Vast Investments Vanish

Britain's vast investments from which she obtained fabulous returns have also gone with the wind.

She is today reduced to her original position of a small island in the North Sea trying to wage war with a decrepit navy on the most powerful combination in the world, and fast degenerating into astronomical figures and the United States whose crazy economic structure built upon Jewish trusts and cartels is also on the verge of collapse, will very soon be the liquidator of the British Empire. No such tragedy has ever befallen a great nation. Greed and selfishness, complete obliviousness to other people's feelings and sufferings, and pride and hypocrisy are at the bottom of this tragedy. No wonder the British people have nowhere to turn today for a friend. Their Yankee cousins, as always, have proved themselves to be great talkers but poor performers. Under the circumstances why Churchill and Roosevelt do not throw in the towel and put a stop to the misery which they have brought on their deluded people is beyond one's comprehension.

While British Generals and naval commanders are losing all their battles against the Axis Forces, which are determined not to sheathe the sword until Anglo-Saxon exploitation of unarmed and helpless people of the world is finally crushed, the stay-at-home British strategists are carefully poring over their history books to gain some consolation for the disastrous reverses which they have suffered on the field of battle. And they always hit upon Napoleon whom they compare with the German Fuhrer always to the latter's disadvantage. They carefully ignore the fact that the conditions today are totally different from those prevailing in Napoleon's days.

If one were to believe English history, England had great leaders in the days of Napoleon, Nelson on sea and Wellington on land. Today Britain has very tawdry imitators of Nelson and the Cunninghams and Wavells of today must be making Nelson and Wellington turn in their graves. In the days of Napoleon, Britain had political giants at home. Today she has Churchill at the helm of affairs who delights to don the mantles of Marlborough and Nelson without even knowing how ridiculous he looks in those ill-fitting garments.

Playing Last Card

Under the circumstances it is now quite certain that history will not repeat itself, that Britain will not win the last battle, and that she is now on the point of playing her last card.

Today, the Japanese nation has demonstrated beyond any possible doubt that the Anglo-Saxons have not the monopoly of brains and brawn, that they are not the superhuman beings they have posed themselves as, that they are common clay like any people of Asia, that they can be licked and licked badly.

Thus their pride has been humbled in the dust, they are grovelling under the feet of a far superior Asiatic nation, they are being taught that what they have preached to the Asiatics for a century is entirely false.

The Japanese have exploded the myth, perpetrated in Asia for a century, that nothing worth while can be accomplished without the guidance of the Anglo-Saxons.

The people of Asia, except a few misguided men like Chiang Kai-shek, fully understand Japan's aims, although the Anglo-Saxons try to misrepresent these aims of Japan. She has one overpowering ambition and that is to free Asia of the last vestiges of Anglo-American influence and make Asia safe for Asiatics.

ARMY IN BORNEO GIVEN MESSAGE

Commander Yamawaki Asks for Greater Effort

Domei

KUCHING, January 1.—Lieutenant-General Masataka Yamawaki, Supreme Commander of the Imperial Expeditionary Forces in Borneo, in a New Year's message addressed to men under his command, today urged them to bend their supreme efforts during the new year toward strengthening the defenses as well as achieving the full reconstruction of Borneo.

The Commander began by expressing his humble respects to His Majesty the Emperor and deep condolences for the spirits of departed heroes, as well as gratitude for the united efforts of the people at home.

Promising a bright future for various reconstruction projects of the military administration in Borneo, Lieutenant-General Yamawaki stated that the new year should be one in which the maintenance of peace and order is further improved and the exploitation of vital resources and the work for the sustenance of livelihood on the spot further accelerated.

Fighting the enemy on the one hand, the Commander continued, the Imperial Forces should uphold, on the other hand, the noble ideals of Nippon and teach the local inhabitants the true meaning of Asiatic renaissance through sincerity.

The Commander concluded by encouraging his men to greater efforts in order to fulfil their vital destiny and in order to fulfil their absolute loyalty to His Imperial Majesty.

U.S. and Brazil Start War Meet at Rio

(Continued From Page 1)

States is now understood to be intent on making the year 1944 a decisive one. The present move in America, I believe, will most legitimately be interpreted by Soviets, Britons and Chiangsters as a most manifest sign of America's egoistic inclination."

The latest issue of the New Republic, taking up the same problem, daringly opined that that the alleged project most adequately shows the American military leaders' hatred for Soviets, Britons and Chiangsters. The magazine, further pronouncing its views, declares:

"The weakest point among our United Nations in the present war in the year 1942 was distrust prevalent among one another. Under the circumstances, the things most needed by us in this year 1943 are: (1) that America will bring more war production under perfect cooperation with Canada, (2) that all united nations will show more unison in their war strategies, (3) that a conference will be held among President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Winston Churchill, Premier Stalin and Chiang Kai-shek, and (4) that establishment will be realized of a supreme war council among the four countries. If we fail in these things we shall repeat the war reverses we suffered in 1942."

News Agencies Closed

By Arrangement with the Asahi (Special to the Nippon Times)

CANTON, December 31.—The Washington Government has closed all the foreign news agencies in New York and prohibited the publication of their respective propaganda magazines, etc., according to a United States radio intercepted here.

This shows, the dispatch continues, how the Washington Government is worrying over the fact that it has now lost the nation's faith by having announced false reports concerning the war situation in the Pacific area.

New Tax Levied

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 31.—Effective January 1, a new "victory tax" will be levied in America as a result of which all people who earn over $12 a week will have 5 per cent deducted from their salaries, according to a Washington dispatch received here.

The dispatch further states that it is generally feared that the new tax is only a precursor to many new taxes now being contemplated by the U.S. Government.

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LITERARY BODY PLANS MEETING

Writers Going to Agrarian Districts To Up Morale

The Nippon Patriotic Literary Society, having some 5,000 men of letters in its membership, is planning to have a two-day literary conference here sometime this spring, it was learned by Domei.

It is expected that the forthcoming conference will discuss effective measures toward further contributing their efforts to the country as "soldiers" in the war of ideology. Arrangements for convening another East Asia Literary Conference are to be discussed with the aim of holding such a meeting annually.

The Society will dispatch during the coming spring its members to the mining, agricultural and fishing villages, as well as to important factories of the nation with the aim of encouraging the men, it was learned. The men of letters to be dispatched to these villages and factories will stay with the workers and will hold conferences with them in order to exchange frank views with the industrial workers of the country.

The results of such conference will be published later in newspapers, magazines or over the radio with a view to enhance the morale of the nation's workers in the wartime industries.

In March this year, the first group will be dispatched to the Kanto district.

The Society is also expected to establish soon the East Asia Bureau in order to effect closer collaboration with men of letters at various places in East Asia.

Kansai Notes

N. H. N. Mody, the well-known Parsi art connoisseur and collector, was host to nine Parsi residents in Kobe at a New Year's Eve dinner party held at the Oriental Hotel from 6 p.m. Thursday, December 31.

Mr. Mody and his guests constituted the small Parsi community in the port city.

New arrivals at the Oriental Hotel on December 31 included: Mr. R. Yagi, Mrs. Ide and daughter, Mr. Ko To Ki, Mr. J. Takase, Mr. W. Egge, Mr. I. Shirakata, Mr. and Mrs. Wada and family, Mrs. Y. Suzuki, Mr. K. Isheki, Mr. H. Ozaki, Mr. and Mrs. Arimori.

C.R.B. Currency Decided

C.P.S.

CANTON, January 1.—The Kwangtung Provincial Government decided to use the Central Reserve Bank currency as the standard for financial transactions as from January 1, 1943.

Press Comments

(Continued From Page 1)

in the future. None can deny that fantastic dreams of today may become realities in the future.

Of course the outcome of the war is not to be decided only by the strength of science and technique, for in the long run spiritual power is the final key to victory. Yet it is wrong to neglect science, for when science and technique are slighted, it is almost impossible to become the victor in modern warfare.

The world war has made it impossible for nations to exchange their scientific achievements, and every nation is independently endeavoring to develop their arms of war. A nation that does not possess that power will speedily fall to ruin, and other countries that have such power are competing to produce better weapons of war.

Nippon's science and technique have made remarkable advances in recent few years, but it is important to further their advance. There are now more than 10 organizations for encouraging the development of science and technique. Then, as an administrative organ to foster scientific and technical progress the Technical Board was organized in January last year for propelling the speedy advance of our science and technique. Also, the plan to form a Scientific and Technical Board was recently announced by the Government. The new organ will be formally established during the present month.

The Prime Minister will be the head of the new Scientific and Technical Board, and it will be composed of more than 200 of the highest authorities in the country. But as admirable as all organs of the new structure are, success depends not on organization and structure, but on personnel. Therefore, scientists should not rival for personal achievements, but should be willing to perform difficult tasks that bring them no immediate reward. Each should be ready to contribute his knowledge and experience for the good of the nation. Only when all scientists cooperate, can the nation expect a remarkable progress in science and technique.

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THE SEASON'S GREETINGS.

We wish all our friends a Bright and Prosperous New Year and thank them for their continued patronage.

L. Caudrelier

KOBE

China to Protect Forests

C.P.S.

NANKING, January 3.—The Ministry of Industry has, with the approval of the National Government, promulgated a set of provisional regulations governing the protection of forests.

This step was taken in view of the utter necessity of afforestation and of conserving the wood supply.

Civilian forest protection corps, to be organized in accordance with the principles of the "Pao Chia" system, will be set up in places adjacent to forests.

Sworn in by Mrs. Wang

C.P.S.

CANTON, January 3.—All the members of the Kwangtung Provincial Party Headquarters were sworn into office by Madame Wang Ching-wei, member of the Supervisory Committee of the Central Kuo-Min Tang, recently.

Chinese Cadets Graduate

C.P.S.

NANKING, January 3.—Over 300 cadets who have completed their training in the Junior Officers' Training Corps held their graduation ceremony recently.

Nippon Times

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Visit Sun Mausoleum

C.P.S.

NANKING, January 3.—Accompanied by two officials of the Overseas Affairs Commission, the 13 members of the Chinese tourist party from Chosen paid homage to the sacred remains of Dr. Sun Yat-sen in the Burial Chamber of the Sun Mausoleum recently.

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CONTENTS:

MARCH OF EVENTS

ONE YEAR OF THE PACIFIC WAR ..... Yusai Takahashi

LIMITS OF SOVIET-"DEMORATIC" UNITY ..... Shozo Mori

THE OFF-SEASON ELECTION IN AMERICA ..... Katsuji Indhara

WAR SITUATION IN NORTH AFRICA ..... Tohmin Suzuki

GREATER EAST ASIA INTERNATIONAL LAW ..... Masatoshi Matsushita

READJUSTMENT OF SMALLER CONCERNS ..... Tanzan Ishibashi

JAPANESE-THAI CULTURAL ACCORD ..... Takeshi Yanaghisawa

CHARACTERISTICS OF JAPANESE WOMEN ..... Toshiko Ifukube

OUR SOUTHERN RECONSTRUCTION POLICY ..... Chihiro Tsutsui

BOOK REVIEWS:

Sadao Kiyohara: Nippon Shisoh-shi (The History of Japanese Thoughts)—Harutaka Hayashi: Sake (Rice Wine)—Kokusai Bunka Shinko-kai: Connaissance de L'Indochine

JAPAN'S PERIODICALS—Extracts:

Kazuo Higo: Japan's Objective in Historical Light—Yoshio Matsushita: Revisions in the Conscription System—Hisataka Omodaka: Our Modern Women

CHRONICLE OF CURRENT EVENTS (October 21—November 20, 1942)

DOCUMENTARY MATERIAL:

Protest to the British and Indian Governments in regard to Maltreatment of Japanese Interned at New Delhi, November 11, 1942—The Second Anniversary of the Conclusion of the Sino-Japanese Basic Treaty, November 30, 1942 (1) Premier Tohjo's Address (2) Foreign Minister Tani's Speech

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Co-Operation Means Co-Prosperity

Nippon Times

We Fight With Firmness, We Build With Kindness

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REICH NAVY FORCES HIT BRITISH CONVOY IN ARCTIC SEA FIGHT

Enemy Cruiser, Destroyer, Cargo Vessel Reportedly More Or Less Badly Damaged

RESULTS NOT CONFIRMED

Luftwaffe Pounds Murmansk Railway Zone and Barracks Near Kandarakusha

Domei

BERLIN, January 2.—The German naval forces in their engagement on December 31, last year, with a British convoy in the Arctic Ocean more or less heavily damaged an enemy cruiser, a destroyer and a cargo vessel, the German High Command announced today. The communique, covering another war development, said:

"German bomber units severely pounded the railway zone in Murmansk and the Red barracks north of Kandarakusha Promontory.

"German naval forces, on December 31, last year, attacked a British convoy protected by cruisers and destroyers in the Arctic Ocean. In the ensuing battle, which lasted several hours, the German Navy more or less severely destroyed a cruiser, a destroyer and a cargo vessel.

"Because of bad weather, the results of the sea battle could not be confirmed by the German side. The British destroyer, which was apparently damaged, was later sunk by a German destroyer. During the Arctic sea battle German submarines attacked four enemy merchantmen with torpedoes. The results have not been confirmed yet. One German destroyer which participated in the same engagement has not returned to its base."

Yelista Destroyed

German forces operating in the Kalmuck Plateau completely destroyed Yelista, capital of Kalmuck, and then withdrew from the city, it is reported.

Soviet Offensives Fail

The Germans on the eastern front have achieved signal results in their latest engagements with many enemy tanks captured, it was announced today by the German High Command, reports Domei. The announcement covering all the new developments on the same front follows:

In the eastern Caucasus sector, the Soviets mobilized powerful infantry and tank units with the aim of penetrating the German positions, but totally failed. The Soviets were driven back after suffering much damage including 29 tanks lost.

A new offensive was launched by the Soviets positioned in the Don River sector, but the attempt was dealt a severe blow by the Germans, with 39 tanks and 10 guns lost by the Soviets. The counter-offensives repeatedly put up by the Soviets at Veliki-Luki were routed each time. The German positions in this area are being held firmly.

In the Rjev sector, from November 25 to December 31, last year, 1,910 Soviet tanks were blasted, stranded or captured. The Soviets also lost 582 guns, either captured or destroyed.

All Russian offensives in the sector southeast of Lake Ilmen were rendered futile by relentless German fire. The Germans caused the Soviets to lose 12 tanks.

Shipping Toll Revealed

Enemy merchant ships sunk by German naval and air forces during 1942 reached more than 9,200,000 tons, it was announced by German Military authorities today. The above figure is the total of the monthly reports announced by the German High Command, with the month of November showing the highest record of 1,035,200 tons.

The monthly figures are as follows:

	ships	tons
January	63	400,600
February	79	525,400
March	105	646,900
April	88	585,000
May	170	924,400
June	156	886,000
July	98	633,400
August	111	699,100
September	161	1,010,700
October	111	720,575
November	166	1,035,200

To the above are to be added 800,000 tons sunk during December and also 187,000 tons which were

(Continued on Page 2)

Chancellor Hitler, in New Year's Message, Exhorts Armed Forces to Attain Axis' Aim

Yomiuri-Hochi

BERLIN, January 1.—In his New Year message issued in the capacity of Commander-in-Chief of the German fighting services, Chancellor Adolf Hitler instructed officers and men under his command to fight the new year to the last with renewed determination for the attainment of the ultimate aim of the Axis Powers.

"In the past year of 1942, Germany scored brilliant war achievements in the battle fronts on land, sea and in the air," declared the Reichsfuehrer, "which are solely attributable to the efforts exerted and prowess displayed by you, officers and men of my fighting services."

Chancellor Hitler stated that Germany is now fighting a fierce battle against the United States and Britain and that difficulties in the war will increase more and more in the future. However, he predicted a final victory will shine upon the Axis Powers.

"As the result of France selling French North Africa at the end of last year, an act of sheer violation of German-French armistice, committed by a portion of insurgent French leaders, Italo-German forces marched into Southern France and the Tunisian area wherein pitched battle is developing at present," he added.

"The war situation in the Tunisian area has a great significance as determining the future situation in North Africa as well as in the Mediterranean Sea.

"On the other hand, in the Eastern Front the Soviets are now carrying out winter offensive, which however, will be frustrated as in 1942. The current war is literally a life or death struggle for which solution there will be no compromise.

"From the above standpoint, I, in welcoming the New Year, pray that you will exert further for the attainment of ultimate victory, and at the same time I express my heartfelt thanks to those who fell unfortunately in battle fronts on the way without seeing the fruits of their efforts."

NORTH CHINA BUDGET FOR THIS YEAR FIXED

Council Stresses Policy of Maintaining Peace, Increased Farm Output, War Materials

Domei

PEKING, January 1.—The North China Political Council at its meeting yesterday decided to fix the 1943 budget at Yuan 422,546,000, was an increase of Yuan 111,000,000 as compared with the 1942 working budget.

It was revealed that the 1943 administrative policy of the North China Political Council will lay particular stress on the maintenance of peace and order and production increase of farm products as well as defense materials.

Adopts 1943 Budget

Domei

PEKING, December 31.—The North China Political Commission held a meeting today of the standing committee and adopted the budget for the 1943 fiscal year providing for revenues and expenditures totaling Yuan 422,546,000 each. This amount represents an increase of approximately Yuan 111,500,000, or 35 per cent, over the budget figure of approximately Yuan 311,000,000 for the previous year.

Although there has been no change from the past policy of following a sound fiscal policy, the budget for 1943 has been drawn up with especially the following three objectives in mind:

(1) Establishment of peace and order.

(2) Increase of agricultural production, especially that of foodstuffs.

(3) Increase of the production and recovery of major resources and materials required for national defense.

With such a budget the wartime structure of North China is expected to be bolstered further.

HORIKIRI LEAVES FOR BERNE

Ex-Envoy to Rome to Study Economic, Financial Problems of Europe

Domei

ROME, January 1.—Zenbei Horikiri former Nippon Ambassador to Italy, who entrained for Berne shortly before midnight last night, was given a send-off by a large number of Italian as well as Nippon officials.

It is believed that the Nippon diplomat will stay in Berne for some time, and will devote himself to studying the economic and financial problems of Europe.

Mr. Horikiri, who will be in the capacity of Ambassador-at-large during his stay in Europe, has recently been relieved of his post in Rome by Shinrokuro Hidaka, Nippon Minister to China.

British Fleet Leaves

Domei

BERLIN, January 2.—The British battleships, Nelson and Rodney, aircraft carriers Formidable and Furious, two cruisers and eight destroyers that were in the port of Gibraltar left early this morning for an undisclosed destination, it is reported.

JAVA'S ROLE IS VITAL IN DEFENSE OF ASIA

Nippon Ready to Meet Counter-Attack of Enemy Says Commander Imamura

Domei

DJAKARTA, January 1.—The increasing importance of Java as one link in the chain of Greater East Asia defense was stressed by Lieutenant-General Hitoshi Imamura, Supreme Commander of the Nippon Expeditionary Force in East Indies, in a New Year's statement.

Felicitating the occasion of the 2,603rd year of the founding of the Nippon Empire, Lieutenant-General Imamura declared that the United States and Britain, after experiencing a general defeat in these areas, are attempting to open a counter-offensive against the Nipponese occupied zones and the war is now approaching a decisive stage.

'After the Java campaign had been brought to a successful finish, the Imperial Army in the East Indies established a military administration and governed the territory with simple and clear-cut policy, giving due respect to the actual needs of the people," he said

"As a result of earnest efforts to reorganize the administration and to reconstruct Java with the wholehearted and sincere cooperation of the inhabitants, remarkable progress has been made during the past ten months since the establishment of the military administration.

"In all lines of business, industry and development of natural resources, as well as the restoration of communication lines, satisfactory results have been achieved. Peace and order has been so well established that there is no fear of any disturbances to affect the life of the people.

"Since the characteristic of the present war is for the Imperial Forces to engage in the twofold task of reconstruction and prosecution of the war, the military administration of Java is prepared for any new development in the war, and at the same time, is busy with the work of creating a new life for the inhabitants.

"The importance of Java as one link in the defense chain of the Greater East Asia is increasing steadily. The United States and Britain, after experiencing a general defeat in these areas, are attempting to counter-attack us, and the war is new approaching a decisive stage. The military administration of Java, while carrying on the reconstruction work, is fully prepared to fulfill its duties as the first line of defense in the southern battle front."

To Up Cotton In Java

Domei

DJAKARATA, January 1.—Self-sufficiency of raw cotton for Java has taken another step forward as a result of the recent drafting of a five-year production plan to increase the output of raw cotton by the Nippon authorities.

According to the present plan, new cotton fields are being cultivated along the eastern coast of Java in the vicinity of Malang as well as in the vicinity of Chereben on the northern coast of Central Java.

Cotton-planting in Java is expect-

(Continued on Page 2)

NEW YEAR MESSAGE IN ANSWER TO TOJO BROADCAST BY WANG

Imperial Forces' Gains Have Cloaked East Asia With Honor, Wang States

REVIEWS PAST VICTORIES

Expresses Deep Joy Over Prosperity in Nippon, China, Manchoukuo, Thailand

Domei

NANKING, January 2.—Wang Ching wei, President of the National Government of China at Nanking, declared that the victories of the Imperial Forces within a year of battle not only has cloaked Nippon with honor but entire Asia as well, during a New Year's radio message made at 7:30 p.m. today in response to a similar message addressed to the President by Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo yesterday.

President Wang's message follows:

"New Year's Day this year is at the same time a second New Year's Day of the War of Greater East Asia.

"Looking back on this memorable occasion, by New Year's Day last year the Navy of our Ally, Nippon, already had annihilated a majority of the capital ships of the United States at Pearl Harbor as well as those of Britain in the vicinity of Singapore.

Made Lightning Victories

"Furthermore, Hongkong, the century-old hot-bed of British imperialism in East Asia, already had fallen into the hands of the Imperial Army and Navy Forces.

"At the same time, the Philippine and Malay campaigns also had been started while reports of Nippon's victories were issued endlessly.

"In rapid succession, before one year had passed since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia the 'Gibraltar of the East', Singapore, had fallen and was renamed Shonan.

"Meanwhile, the Philippines in the east, Burma in the west, the Aleutians in the north, and the various colonies of the East Indies, including the British East Indies, in the south had come under Nippon's control while Anglo-American bases and influence in East Asia as well as in the South Pacific, also had been crushed.

"This magnificent victory of Nippon solely has not been an honor for Nippon but also for the whole East Asia.

"Upon greeting the second New Year's Day of the War of Greater East Asia, I cannot help sensing a deep feeling of gratitude and satisfaction as I look back upon the achievements of the past year and look to the future with greater hope than ever.

"If I may be allowed to mention the reasons I should state first of all that, as a result of the brilliant victories of Nippon in the War of Greater East Asia, we have been able to gain an immovable position.

"My hope for the future springs from the burning desire shared by all to win the War of Greater East Asia as swiftly as possible.

"Visiting Nippon for the first time, I felt a deep sense of respect for the atmosphere of earnest endeavor prevailing in the country of our Ally.

"Upon my second visit since the previous year everything I saw or heard moved me strongly. While gaining its magnificent military victories in the Pacific War on the one hand, the whole nation of Nippon is united in toil and the spirit of patriotism while further increasing its strength by practices of extreme socrifices by each individual.

Is Powerful Example

"Such bravery, industry, and perseverance which Nippon has revealed, the leader of Greater East Asia, constitute a powerful example to be followed by the various East Asiatic allies of Nippon.

"We fervently hope that the various nations of East Asia will not only appreciate the great victories of Nippon but at the same time follow with greater zeal the example of united toil set by their leader.

"The National Government of China today considers the principles of Greater East Asia propounded by Sun Yat-sen, the father of the nation, as its absolute aims.

"Together with the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia the

(Continued on Page 2)

His Majesty Leads 'Genshi-Sai' Rituals At Imperial Palace

His Majesty the Emperor personally participated in "Genshi-sai," or the age-old New Year's Festival of the Imperial Court, which was observed at 10 a.m. Sunday at the three Sanctuaries in the Imperial Palace. The ceremony which was conducted by Prince Kimiteru Sanjo, Grand Master of Rituals, was attended by all the Princes and Princesses of the Blood in Tokyo and high military and civil officials headed by Premier Hideki Tojo. At 10 a.m., His Majesty the Empero in traditional court costume led the worshipping in the three Imperial Sanctuaries of Kashikodokoro, Korei-den and Shin-den. Their Majesties the Empress and Empress Dowager followed His Imperial Majes'y in the worshipping, after which the Princes and Princesses of the Blood and high officials worshipped.

IMPERIAL ARMY SET TO SMASH BARRIERS

Resolved to Win Final Victory Regardless of Stiff Resistance, Says Hata

Domei

NANKING, January 2.—The increasing need of a firm resolve and determination to face greater difficulties for the consummation of the War of Greater East Asia was reiterated by General Shunroku Hata, Commander-in-Chief of the Nippon Expeditionary Forces in China, in his New Year's message broadcast from a local station tonight.

The gist of General Hata's speech follows:

"During the past one year, the Nippon Expeditionary Forces in China devoted themselves to the destruction of the fighting strength of Chungking on the one hand and to the maintenance of peace and order in occupied areas and the construction of a New Order on the Chinese Continent on the other.

Nippon Troops Ready

"Members of the Imperial fighting services in China, daily engrossed in the execution of their gigantic tasks, have been thoroughly trained and completely prepared to meet any emergency with full confidence. Their morale is excellent.

"On this occasion I wish to express my gratitude to the ardent and sincere support and cooperation of the people on the home front and promise that we would never betray their trust and confidence.

"The Chungking regime is now desperately engressed in strengthening their fighting structure by maintaining their front lines on the mere strength of Anglo-American aid in order to improve its international position.

"However, it is certainly impossible for the Chungking regime to accomplish its malicious objective since it is fighting a war which lacks definite principles.

Raps Chungking Regime

"It should be noted that such a war as the Chungking regime is fighting which aims at 'fishing in troubled waters' will never invite the independence of a country and happiness and welfare of its people.

"On the contrary, the National Government of China, with Wang Ching-wei as its President, is whole-heartedly sharing its task in the prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia side by side with Nippon, and I cannot help but express my sincere respect for its firm resolve and gigantic efforts.

"I believe that cooperation between Nippon and China, which share the same fate and ideal, will some day culminate in the revival of Asia.

"It should be well understood that there will be many more difficulties for Nippon and China to surmount in the future, and that our two countries are required to make greater common efforts.

"Officers and men of the Nippon Expeditionary Forces in China are fully conscious of their mounting tasks on the China front, which is one of the decisive theaters of the War of Greater East Asia, and are thoroughly resolved to fight the present war to a final victory."

Kameyama Reaches Kuibishev

Domei

KUIBISHEV, January 1.—Kazuji Kameyama, Counselor of the Japanese Embassy, arrived here at 9 p.m. Thursday, it was learned today.

SERIES OF AIR RAIDS BY IMPERIAL PLANES SPOIL ENEMY PLANS

Day-and-Night Attacks on Chittagong and Yunnanyi Frustrate Burma Attack

SIGNAL RESULTS GAINED

One Unit Alone Smashed 38 Planes on Ground and Shot Down 15 Others

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE, January 2.—Relentless bombing raids on American and British air bases in India and Yunnan Province, carried out night and day by the Imperial Army air units, have completely frustrated enemy attempts to launch a counter-attack on Burma.

During these raids, a certain unit alone destroyed 38 enemy planes on the ground, shot down 15 others, sank two large-sized vessels and set ablaze three additional merchantmen.

To add to its laurels, the unit scored direct hits on five other enemy ships, heavily damaging them, as well as inflicting heavy damages on the airfield, runway and other military installations.

In an interview, the commander of this unit, recounting these raids said, "On December 10, our unit blasted a group of enemy merchantmen in the port of Chittagong. Favored by excellent weather condition, seven of our planes after attacking several ships, sank one vessel of the 3,000-ton class almost instantaneously, set aflame three others, heavily damaged five vessels as well as causing damage to five smaller ships.

Heavy Damages Caused

"After we had finished our attack on the merchantmen our mainstay assaulted harbor installations, blasting four warehouses and starting huge fires at three different military establishments outside the city," the unit commander continued. "Below, we could see enemy high-angle guns firing away furiously but save for slight damage to one or two of our planes, all of them returned to their base.

"On December 15, day and night raids were carried out on Chittagong airfield. During the daylight raid, a formation of our fighter planes and bombers attacked approximately 20 enemy craft lined on the ground, setting ablaze nine large and small-sized planes," he disclosed, adding, "about 20 enemy fighters took off to intercept us. Following a heated dog-fight, our fighters bagged three of them. We, too, lost one plane which dived head long into an enemy military installation."

The unit commander added, "without giving the foe time to rest, our unit braved inclement weather and again raided the Chittagong airfield that evening, unleashing missiles with deadly accuracy and causing huge fires to break out at four different places.

"On December 16, we again took off from our base with the object of carrying out a third raid on Chittagong, but the weather was worse than the previous day so we just headed for the Feni airfield.

"A large number of enemy planes came up to meet us and another fierce air combat followed with our escort fighters. Leaving them to 'finish off' the interceptors, our bomber squadron then winged its way toward Chittagong," he said.

Resistance Is Met

"We were obliged to maintain a fairly high altitude since it was raining severely by this time. We power-dived through the clouds when we reached our objective and found the enemy fully prepared.

"The anti-aircraft battery spit intense gunfire and the enemy planes, seeing that we were unescorted, launched severe frontal attacks but we continued to dive toward our objectives. We bombed from so low an altitude that we could actually feel the explosion of the bombs.

"Meanwhile, we had to shake off persistent enemy attacks and during an air combat, our bombers shot down six Hurricane planes. Two of our bombers also received hits."

"On December 20, we assaulted the Chittagong airfield at night and set fire to three different places. It is believed at one of these places left burning were a group of enemy planes. The anti-aircraft fire was severe, but all our planes returned to their base," the unit commander

(Continued on Page 2)

IMPERIAL ARMY PLANES RAID ENEMIES AT YUNGAN, KANCHOU IN DARING SURPRISE ATTACKS

All War Objectives at Both Places Totally Smashed in Visit

MACHENG BASE TAKEN

Domei

NANKING, January 3.—Big formations of Imperial Army bombers escorted by fighters attacked Yungan, 200 kilometers west of Fuchow yesterday, blasting or setting ablaze fuel and ammunition depots as well as munition plants in the city, it was announced by the Imperial Expeditionary Army in China at 11:10 a.m. today.

All the planes which took part in the raid returned safely to their base, the announcement added.

The raid carried out yesterday morning by our Imperial Army bombers and fighters on Yungan, seat of the Provincial Government of Fukien, was a surprise attack, which resulted in severe damages upon enemy military establishments.

As the result of our relentless bombings, fuel and ammunition depots in two places exploded with loud detonations, black smoke columns shooting high up into the sky, while four fires started in war-supplies depots, which were confirmed by the attacking planes.

The bombers and fighters of the Imperial Army are reported to have all returned safely to the base.

Kanchou Field Blasted

Domei

NANKING, January 2.—Squadrons of fighters and bombers of the Imperial Army made a surprise raid over Kanchou, a stronghold of the Chungking forces 300 kilometers south of Nanchang in Kiangsi Province, on New Year's Day, the headquarters of the Imperial Expeditionary Force in China announced this afternoon.

The airfield and other important military facilities at Kanchou as well as supply depots on the opposite bank of the Kan River were heavily bombed and machine-gunned, the communique said.

All planes returned safely to their base.

Macheng Occupied

Domei

HANKOW, January 1.—Imperial forces operating in the southern Tapieh mountain range in eastern Hupeh Province, on Wednesday, completely occupied Macheng, a base of the temporarily organized 51st Chungking Division located 12 kilometers from Lotien, another Chungking key point which was taken by the Imperial Forces on December 25, field dispatches revealed today.

Macheng was captured by the Imperial Forces after they had engaged in mopping-up operations around Lotien.

Mop-Ups Successful

Domei

NANKING, January 1.—Mopping-up campaigns conducted by the Imperial Forces during the past week in Honan, Kiangsu, Shantung, Anhwei Provinces made favorable progress, according to the weekly review of the war in China issued by the headquarters of the Imperial Expeditionary Forces today.

The forces operating in the northern part of Honan Province since December 11 have routed groups of Chinese Communist troops in the vicinities of Chulu, Chingfeng and Wuan, and are still pressing the remnants, the communique said.

The third stage of operations against Communist forces in Shantung Peninsula has also shown favorable progress, the communique said. The clean-up campaign which was started on December 20 against Chungking troops in the sector west of Lake Weishan, northern Kiangsu Province is making smooth progress, it was revealed.

In Central China, the review con-

(Continued on Page 2)

Coming to Nippon

Dr. Heinrich G. Stahmer

STAHMER REPLACING OTT AS TOKYO ENVOY

Wilhelmstrasse Announces Diplomatic Shifts for Nippon, Spain and Sweden

Domei

BERLIN, January 2.—The German Foreign Office announced important changes in Germany's diplomatic service today, by which the present Ambassadors to Nippon, Spain and Sweden will be replaced by new men.

Major-General Eugen Ott, German Ambassador to Nippon, will be recalled to occupy an important position in the Foreign Office, and he will be replaced by Dr. Heinrich G. Stahmer, Ambassador to the National Government of China. Until formal appointment of a successor at Nanking, Minister E. Kordt of the German Embassy at Tokyo will act as Charge d'Affaires at Nanking.

Played Long, Vital Role

Major-General Eugen Ott, German Ambassador to Nippon, who is reported as being recalled to Berlin to occupy an important post in the German Foreign Office, was appointed to the Tokyo post on March 28, 1938. But previous to his appointment as Ambassador he was military attache at the German Embassy for five years from 1933.

Thus, he has been in Tokyo nearly 10 years. During his long stay, he has greatly contributed for the strengthening of Nippon-German relations, particularly having been the German representative in signing the Tripartite Alliance in September, 1940.

His departure is being regretted by both official and private circles in Tokyo.

YASUDA BANK IS MERGED WITH NIPPON CHUYA GINKO

Step Taken to Cope With Present Trend of Today, States Finance Ministry

The Yasuda Bank, Limited, and the Nippon Chuya Ginko, which recently amalgamated, issued a joint communique on December 31 expressing their determination to serve the State in fulfilling their mission in the financial field, states Domei.

Until today, the communique said, both banks had worked in close collaboration, but the current state of affairs made it advisable for the two concerns to merge and exert their united efforts toward the country's cause.

In this connection, the Finance Ministry officials declared that the application for the incorporation of the two banks, which had been under its investigation for sometime was finally approved.

The merger thus resulted is the most adequate measure taken under the prevailing situation in the country, the Finance Ministry authorities said, adding, that since it is good for the financial circles in general, they will extend every possible aid in the future to facilitate their operation.

ATHLETES OF NIPPON WERE ACTIVE IN 1942

Wide Range of Events, Many Acheivements Made Despite Stress of War

Taking into account that the past year was one wherein the entire nation turned its efforts to fighting the anti-Axis Powers, and also the fifth year of the China Affair, 1942 provided the sports world of Nippon with a wide range of events and achievements attaining extraordinary attendance figures.

Most remarkable of all was the fact that even with the war, international arena of sport was far from void of action.

Heading the games of international interest was the handball match between the teams of Nippon and Germany played in Tokyo during November. The German teams, officially recognized by the Director of Physical Training in Germany as representative of Germany, was composed of crack athletes residing here and several internationally known players.

The game, played before a capacity crowd in the Meiji Shrine stadium, was close throughout with the Nippon team staging a second half rally to emerge victorious, 8 goals to 7. At the half interval, Germany held a 4 to 3 lead and only some brilliant work by the Nippon all-stars enabled them to outscore their opponents by 5 goals to 3 to take the game.

Meiji Shrine Meet

Providing thrills to countless thousands of spectators was the 13th Meiji Shrine Physical Training Meet which was brought to a grand climax on Meiji-setsu. Some 40,000 athletes who had gathered not only from all parts of Nippon, but also from China, Manchoukuo and Inner Mongolia engaged in heated competition in the summer and fall games of the meet.

While stress was attached to military events rather than on mere sports as in the past, the Shrine Meet nevertheless saw some hectic tingling action as prefectural teams battled for national honors in 26 events.

Throughout the year various athletic organizations sponsored meets and tournaments which saw competition of the first order. And intercollegiate sports mapped out a spring and fall season for all major teams.

Continued popularity of baseball was evident, not only of the intercollegiate brand, but that as played by professional teams. In Tokyo, the Big Six collegiate games attracted thousands of fans to the Meiji Shrine baseball stadium while the eight clubs of the Nippon Professional Baseball League played before enthusiastic crowds at the Korakuen stadium.

In the spring, Meiji University by taking nine tilts against a defeat copped the championship of the Big Six League. In the fall Waseda University with three victories, a defeat and a draw, replaced Meiji as the champion. Collegiate baseball reached it's zenith with the classic Waseda versus Keio series, which drew 65,000 spectators to each of the three games played.

In the professional ball circuit, the Tokyo Kyojin nine continued their diamond reign by taking the pennant for the fourth consecutive season. Of the 105 games scheduled during the year, the champions won 73 against 23 losses and 5 draws to lead its nearest rival, Taiyo by 13 full games.

Keio Shines in Rugby

Closely rivaling baseball in interest was rugby. Surprising upsets marked both the spring and fall season. Keio University, for the first time in over a decade, came up with a championship fifteen in the fall to walk off with the pennant of the Kanto Collegiate League. The spring title was taken by the Waseda squad.

Swimming, where Nippon has gained international prominence, experienced a somewhat mediocre year. Few meets and the fact that many of Nippon's swimmers of international note were at the front, all contributed to a lean swimming year.

Not one national record was established although outstanding was the performance of an 18-year-old schoolboy from Wakayama Prefecture, Shuichi Murayama, who came up with the year's best mark in the 800 and 400 meters freestyle events. Where the mermen failed, the mermaids or rather one mermaid, however came through with national record-breaking performances.

Dimunitive Miss Fumiko Hatano of the Tokyo Girls' Fourth Prefectural Middle School, swam to three national records the 200, 300 and 400 meters freestyle events. The only other national record was established by Miss Hatano's schoolmate, Miss Miyeko Asai, who chalked up a new high in the 200 meter backstroke event.

Cinder path followers this fall received with regret the decision to retire from competition of 33-year-old Ryutoku Yoshioka, who has been Nippon's foremost sprinter for the last 13 years.

Yoshioka, who competed in the 1932 and 1936 Olympic Games, ran his last race in the 13th Meiji Shrine Physical Training Meet. He has been described by critics as "the world's fastest man up to 50 yards." His best time for 100 meters is 10.5 seconds.

Pole Vaulter Dies

Sueo Oye, who was Nippon's outstanding pole vaulter and who competed so spectacularly in the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles and again in the Olympic Games of 1936 in Berlin, met a glorious death in the Philippine Campaign. A great competitor, he drew the admiration of the spectators at the Olympic Games, and in 1937 was voted the outstanding athlete of the day in one of the great indoor meets in the famous Madison Square Garden of New York.

In the national tennis rankings, the No. 1 spots in the mens and womens singles were awarded to Goro Fujikura of Keio University, Tamotsu Sumi of Waseda University and Miss Michiko Yamakawa of the Koshien Club respectively.

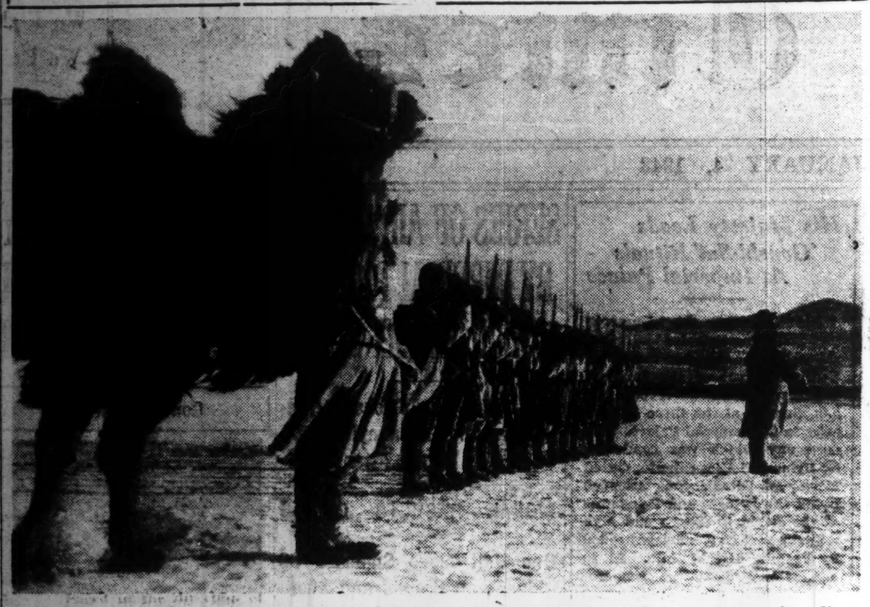
Among the other teams which finished up the year in grand style were the Gaikyu (football) and hockey teams of Meiji University. The Surugadai gridiron eleven copped the championship of the Kanto League for the third consecutive season, while Meiji's skaters dominated the ice, winding up an undefeated season for the second consecutive year.

In basketball, Rikkyo University as usual came up with another classy five to sweep everything before them to take the Kanto League crown. In team competition, the Waseda squad nosed out Bunrika for the track and field pennants.

With the war, typical Japanese sports, as Kendo, archery, sumo, judo and martial sports enjoyed an ever-greater popularity. Sumo, Nippon's national sport, particularly recognized by the Imperial Army and Navy as the proper spiritual and physical pastime to develop the national health, was practiced fervently by all classes throughout the nation.

Thus, despite the war, Nippon's sportsdom had a banner year in 1942, bespeaking Nippon's virility and preparedness to fight through the prevailing national emergency.

Border Patrol Greets New Dawn



Faced in the direction of their beloved fatherland, a unit of the Imperial Forces guarding the Manchoukuo-Soviet border present arms in a New Year's salute.

Strictest Vigil Kept by Kwantung Army Amid Blizzard-Swept Reaches of North

By Domei Correspondent

ON ARGUN RIVER, Soviet-Manchoukuo Border, January 3.—Amid the wintry blasts which sweep over the uninhabited plains of the border districts, the troops of the Kwantung Army silently stand guard over the northern outpost of Manchoukuo.

Standing alone on the snow-bound plains of northwestern extremity of Manchoukuo is this single outpost of the Kwantung Army at Chihchin which I was given permission to visit by the authorities.

The Argun river silently winds its serpentine way through the wild frozen countryside of Hulumpeierh finally flowing into the Amur. In this bleak land the only break in the rolling plains is the black outpost buildings.

"Blizzards that blow down from the Great Hsingan range are frequent, declared Unit Commander Tsuguo Matsushita to this correspondent, as the dim light given out by the oil lamp revealed the cold room in which the commander gave his interview.

"A ceaseless watch is being maintained over the countryside and in the air," he continued, "but at times it is trying for the sentinels to keep awake as the thick winter clothes make them drowsy."

Apart from the daily routine, the solders usually occupy themselves during the winter months with breaking up ice brought in straw bags from the Argun River for melting into drinking water.

However, in summer which comes just after the ice in the river thaws, the soldiers cast off their lethargy and become boisterous as children, swimming in the river or catch fish literally with their hands as great shoals come up to fill the river. Aside from these recreations, the soldiers life is made miserable by attacks from mosquitoes, fleas and bed-bugs.

"Regardless of these hardships, the soldiers have to suffer, complete performance of our duties for the security of our country is uppermost in our minds," Unit Commander Matsushita stressed.

Imperial Army Planes Raid Yungan, Kanchou

(Continued From Page 1)

tinued, Imperial Forces since late December have smashed position after position of the Chungking forces in the southern part of Tapiehshan district in Hupeh Province.

The review revealed that the punitive drive against the Chungking 92nd Army in the Honan-Shansi Kiangsu-Anhwei border districts which was launched on December 20 was concluded on December 24, while that against the Chungking bandits near Tolin at the eastern extremity of Kwangtung Province, was also concluded with the capture of Tolin on December 25.

Meanwhile, Imperial Army aircraft sank or damaged 12 enemy vessels aggregating about 7,000 tons, in the Yangtze River between December 15 and 26, and effectively bombed on December 28 the enemy military installations at Waichow in the eastern part of Kwangtung Province.

Reich Navy Forces Hit British Convoy In Arctic Sea Fight

(Continued from Page 1)

announced in a special communique on December 31.

Also, enemy warships sunk by German naval and air forces during 1942 included 12 destroyers, six submarines, 28 speed boats, 13 sailing ships, eight patrol ships, three converted cruisers, three small ships, one aircraft carrier and 12 others.

KEIO SKATER WINS RACE

Fukai Finishes First in 5,000 Meters Event

Domei

LAKE MATSUBARA, January 2.—Again grabbing first place in the 5,000 meters ice-skating race but failing to break his last year's meet record of 8 minutes 51.2 seconds, Tsuneo Fukai, crack Keio University skater, finished a good 20 seconds ahead of his next rival in the second day of the three-day Waseda-Keio Dual Meet held here today.

As another teammate, Masanao Sasaki took first in the 500 meters race, the Keio ice-skating team led its rival Waseda by 25 to 17 points.

Series of Air Raids By Imperial Planes Spoil Enemy Plans

(Continued From Page 1)

said.

"Due to our incessant raids, the enemy removed its planes from Chittagong to Feni so a formation of our bombers carried out a surprise attack there on the night of December 23," he continued.

"As we neared our objective, a number of small enemy fighters tried to intercept us but we performed our mission by carefully dumping all our bombs on the airfield. Four large-sized enemy craft including a four-motored bomber and a fighter plane were razed as they received direct hits. Four additional enemy craft were likewise heavily damaged.

"Several Hurricanes challenged us," the unit commander revealed, but as they were afraid to fight, only one could be downed."

"On December 24, a third night raid was made on Chittagong, in which devastating damage was caused to harbor installations. Floodlights from the airfield turned the sky into virtual day and a dog-fight followed, but all our planes returned without the slightest damage," he stated.

Enemy Surprised

"Following these attacks on eastern India, our unit, on December 25, conducted a lightning attack on the Yunnanyi airfield where the enemy had mustered some 30 planes to attack Burma. Taken by complete surprise, the enemy was caught flatfooted as we blasted 14 planes. It was learned later that 15 American officers were killed during this raid.

"On the following day, however," the unit commander added, "the enemy was prepared and as we approached, 15 P-40 fighters were awaiting us. In the ensuing combat, we shot down six and returned after destroying six additional craft on the ground.

"On December 27, the fourth raid was carried out on Chittagong while a separate unit attacked Feni. At Chittagong, as a result of our raid huge fires broke out in six different places along the quay.

"I was rather concerned over the condition of our pilots lest they be overworked from their continuous raids," the unit commander said. "However, I was very happy to see them in the best of spirit and always 'on the go.'"

New Year Message In Answer to Tojo Broadcast by Wang

(Continued From Page 1)

National Government proclaimed its determination to share all the joys and hardships of the war with Nippon.

"In conjunction with that proclamation, the National Government is doing its best to contribute to the cause of the War of Greater East Asia throufh various projects in the political, economic, military, and cultural fields.

"Upon greeting the second New Year's Day of the War of Greater East Asia, I should like to express in conclusion our most sincere felicitations for the brilliant victories of Nippon.

"I should like also to express my earnest joy at the prosperity and happiness prevailing in Your Excellency's country, as well as in my nation, and the countries of Manchoukuo and Thailand."

PROGRESS IN SOUTH ASTONISHES ITALIAN

Axis Scribe Impressed by Work Of Restoring Regions Mutilated by Enemy

"It was quite surprising to see reconstruction and reorganization of the Southern Regions progressing so smoothly in view of the fact how the enemy had destroyed practically everything and how what had been otherwise left was all practically in a chaotic state," declared Vanzo Comito, Tokyo correspondent of the Gazzetta del Popolo, an Italian newspaper, who returned here following a month and a half of tour of the Southern Regions, according to the Nichi-Nichi.

"After visiting various places in that vast area," Mr. Comito said, "I was deeply impressed with the energetic work undertaken by the Japanese military authorities not only in their civil administration but also in their cultural and social work."

"In the light of the interviews I had with various military administrations, I can understand what contributed to the success of the Japanese in driving out Anglo-American and Dutch influences from East Asia within such a short space of time," the Italian correspondent said, adding, "military operations proved successful since they were carried out according to schedule."

Java's Capture Astonishes

Continuing, he said, "it is quite astonishing the way that Java was captured in only eight days, making well-trained enemy forces surrender in all areas. No wonder that terror was struck into the heart of the enemy.

"Commanding the troops at the Palace of the Sultan of Johore, Lieutenant-General Tomoyuki Yamashita succeeded in making the enemy hoist a white flag over the Chathay Hotel after seven days' struggle.

"At the time of the attack of Kota Bharu, the Japanese Forces had to land under the cover of night in the face of a fierce storm. Through mountain-high waves, crocodile-infested swamps and thick jungles, the Japanese Forces marched on bravely and, after ten hours, the British airfield at Kota Bharu was captured. This was a battle annihilation and those who narrowly escaped being few and far between.

"As in the foregoing battles, the Japanese Forces fought bravely and ingeniously in the Philippines, Sumatra, Burma, islands in the Bay of Bengal and elsewhere. As a result, Japan has obtained strategic bases indispensable for supremacy of the Indian Ocean.

"In the battle fought in Burma, the intrinsic value of the Japanese Army was perfectly displayed. This was a great success achieved by the General Staff of the Japanese Army; indeed, in the battle of Burma, the Japanese advanced at a surprisingly high speed, putting 150,000 enemy soldiers to rout, up to the Burma-Yunnan border, about 1,700 kilometers away from Rangoon.

British Destroy Mandalay

"Mandalay, in Burma, was literally destroyed in 15 days as the retreating British soldiers set fire to it. At the time of the retreat, the Chungking Forces sacked this town, leaving not a grain of rice behind for the people. This was indeed the height of outrage.

"It is specially worthy of mention that the Japanese Forces without delay distributed rice which they had brought for their use, among the hungry people. A glance at the frightfully devastated Mandalay made me shudder.

"According to Lieutenant-General Shojiro Iida, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Forces in Burma Mandalay will be rehabilitated as a modern city leaving everything characteristic of the Orient in its original farm.

"In Rangoon, where loss from fire was reported great, rehabilitation of damaged streets is making steady progress and the administration system is perfect, as explained by Dr. U Ba Maung, Chief of the Administrative Organ of Burma, who is putting up a good fight in cooperation with the Japanese military authorities.

"When asked if the India-Burma front is the only British counter-attack route, Lieutenant-General Iida, who is a remarkable strategist, said that General Archibald Wavell, who declared over the radio that the British intend to launch a strong counter attack from the India-Burma front, may adopt that course.

"Lieutenant-General Iida said the Japanese Forces will never be overawed and that Japanese pressure is at all times predominant over that of the enemy.

"A certain Commander of the Japanese air force, who actually participated in the air battles in Malai and Burma in command of his units, vividly described all battles he fought adding that major enemy air bases in Malai and Burma were shattered and occupied in the first two days of each battle.

"Such brilliant war results scored by the Japanese air force are the fruit of a close cooperation between the army and navy forces.

"The fortress of Corregidor, probably stronger than that of Shonan, was reduced in only 24 hours by the dauntless Japanese Forces.

"In this connection, the ingenious and profound plan of operations of the Japanese General Staff and the sublime fighting spirit of the Japanese soldiers should be dealt with at great length if more time and space are given," Mr. Comito concluded.

Three Enemy Vessels Bombed in Bone Port By German Air Force

Domei

BERLIN, January 2.—A German air unit, composed of fighters and bombers, made a surprise attack on Bone Harbor in North Algeria yesterday, scoring one direct hit on an enemy cruiser, dropped two effective bombs on another cruiser of the 8,000-ton class, and heavily damaged a middle-sized enemy cargo vessel, the German High Command announced today.

SPLENDID PROGRESS SEEN IN PHILIPPINES

Industrial Structure Strengthened and Islanders Working For New Order, Says Tanaka

Domei

MANILA, January 1.—Peace and order have been maintained and remarkable progress is evident in the industrial and economic structures in the Philippines declared Lieutenant-General Shizuichi Tanaka, Supreme Commander of the Imperial Expeditionary Forces, in the Philippines, in a New Year's message.

"On looking back over the past year," he stated, "it can be seen that the first six months were devoted to military operations throughout the Philippines, while during the second half of the year steady progress was made in general reconstruction by the Military Administraiton of Nippon.

"Communication and transportation systems have been restored to normal and new ideals and principles established for the education of the people.

"The new Philippines Labor Service Association which was organized on the auspicious occasion marking the first anniversary of the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia will contribute greatly to the already steady progress of the New Order in the Philippines in close cooperation with Nippon's Military Administration."

Java's Role Is Vital In Defense of Asia

(Continued From Page 1)

ed to be further accelerated as superior varieties of young cotton plants arrive from Nippon Proper, Taiwan and Burma.

With the gradual increase of raw cotton production in Java, the supply of cotton yarns and tissues, which became comparatively insufficient due to the suspension of imports following the outbreak of the war, is expected to increase steadily.

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(Continued on Page 2) (Continued on Page 2) That Dr. Lin should complain over (Continued on Page 2) carrier. serious results.